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CENTRAL INTELLIGENCE AGENCY

INFORMATION REPORT

REPORT

CD NO.

COUNTRY Poland

SUBJECT Acts of Sabotage

DATE DISTR. 10 June 1955

NO. OF PAGES 2 25X1

PLACE
ACQUIRED

NO. OF ENCLS.
(LISTED BELOW) 25X1

DATE OF INFO.

SUPPLEMENT TO
REPORT NO.

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10 The Polish population is discontented and bitterly anti Communist. Foreign radio broadcasts are listened to eagerly and the news obtained from them circulated orally among trusted acquaintances. Rumors of Russian monuments being defaced or destroyed are common. Dissatisfaction with the low standard of living is almost universal and acts of sabotage are frequently reported. According to one such report, a Polish workman was allegedly arrested in Stalinogrod for pouring a container of quicksilver into the oil tank of a large pump. In another case, ten peasants were seen being marched under armed guard into a police station in Stalinogrod. Allegedly, the peasants had been arrested for singing the Horst Wessel Lied during a village celebration. The following three specific acts of sabotage have been observed:

- a. A Western technician was employed for several months in a large Silesian power plant, where he was repairing the turbine blades on a large turbine. One morning when he arrived at the plant he noticed that someone had been tampering with his machine. He immediately began inspecting the machine and found that someone had removed one of the turbine blades from the turbine wheel, filed the supports off the turbine blade on both sides, and then re-inserted it in the turbine wheel. The technician reported this damage to the Polish supervisor, who initiated an investigation. The investigation established that the turbine blade had been deliberately damaged by an act of sabotage. If the damage had not been discovered, the blade would undoubtedly have flown out of the wheel as soon as the turbine was put into operation and it probably would have caused great internal damage to the machine.
- b. A group of Western technicians were employed on repair work on the steam piping system of a large Silesian power plant. When they finished work each evening, they put a lead cover over the open end of the pipe so that no dirt could fall in during the night. One morning when they came to work and removed the lead cover they discovered, quite accidentally, that a large wad of tangled wire had been shoved back into the open end of the pipe. If the wire had not been discovered and removed

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From the pipe the piping system probably would have plugged up and burst the first time high-pressure steam was forced through it.

- c. During a hockey game between a German and a Polish team in the sport stadium at Stalinogrod, the referee allegedly favored the Polish team unfairly. The spectators protested tumultuously and when the situation began to get out of hand the Polish security police intervened and arrested several spectators. A few nights later the wooden spectators' stands in the stadium were set on fire in protest. Considerable damage ensued before the blaze was brought under control.
2. Because of the frequent reports of sabotage, foreign technicians employed in Silesia are extremely careful about their work. They fear that they themselves will be accused of sabotage if anything goes wrong with the machines which they have been sent to repair or install.

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